

Wethersfield Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

For Monday December 12th, 2016 @7pm in the Employee Lounge, Lower Level, Town Hall

Attendance: Mark Alpert, Joe Hickey, Donna Hemmann, Bruce Graver, Alex Graver, Corey Christians

1- New Business-

Request to allow Eversource to remove multiple trees near utility wires. **APPROVED**

- red maple at 570 Wolcott Hill Rd (near left side of 580 Wolcott Hill Rd driveway entrance)
- EAB infested ash with significant basal hollow at 646 Wolcott Hill Rd (near Coleman Rd)
- small deformed cherry sapling at NW corner of 646 Wolcott Hill
- 3 trees in forest border of Two Rod Hwy (between 88 & 126 Two Rod Hwy)
- multiple stemmed oak across from 246 Two Rod Hwy
- 3 trees near driveway entrance of 269 Two Rod Hwy

NEW -2 declining maples at 28 Charter Road

Request to remove declining sugar maple at 351 Hartford Ave. **APPROVED**

Hazardous red maple removed at Webb School on Nov. 8th & 9th. Tree contained recent damage (large broken/hanging branches and significant dead branches over sidewalk along Wells Rd. Tree also had a very significant hollow area in the main stem, contained multiple bad branch unions and old stress fractures.

2- List of Private Trees – Removals permissioned by Eversource-

- large maple at 720 Wolcott Hill Rd
- large maple at 726 Wolcott Hill Rd
- 2 ash at 555 Highland
- 2 oaks at 639 Highland
- 1 sugar maple at 686 Highland
- 2 spruce at the corner of Two Rod Hwy & Highland
- 4 spruce at 38 Two Rod Hwy
- 4 spruce and pine at 255 Two Rod Hwy
- 5 trees at 269 Two Rod Hwy
- 1 large pine at 287 Two Rod Hwy

3- October Work Completed-

- addressed illegal cutting on town property surrounding Old Reservoir

- notified Eversource about silver maple at/near 24 Center Street in contact with utility lines
- 2 days of work in Newington completed
- pruned all trees in lawn area of Hartford Ave & Silas Deane Hwy intersection to improve safety, sightlines, clearance over roadway, and aesthetics
- attended Tree Wardens' Association fall workshop
- changed out informational event banners over Marsh Street
- planted 40 5'-6' Emerald Green arborvitae at Old Reservoir Rd (near 8 Hawthorne Way)
- pruned maple at 21 Clearfield to improve safety
- inspected proposed removals requested by Eversource (tree ownership to be determined by engineering, then will be submitted to Shade Tree Commission)
- multiple rounds of watering all Fall 2016 tree plantings
- removed Shade Tree Commission approved declining spruce at Nature Center entrance
- removed Shade Tree Commission approved decaying pine at Griswold entrance of Mill Woods
- pruned maple at left side of 122 Griswold to improve safety, also reduce vegetative encroachment onto bike path
- pruned beech at 67 Hillcrest Ave
- 3 dead trees removed along east side of Mill Woods Pond
- work to remove invasive plants along southeast edge of Mill Woods Pond
- planted PTO requested maple at NW corner of Emmerson Williams school
- attended Invasive Plant Management workshop
- removed fallen brush across brook near Murphy's Pond
- assisted Parks Dept. with leaf collection
- remove dead trees and prune multiple trees at left side of 89 Dudley Rd to improve safety over bike path and clearance over roadway

4- November Work Completed-

- apply soil at 36 Sunset Blvd where stumps were removed
- attended Electrical Hazards Awareness Program (EHAP)
- removed significantly damaged red maple at NW corner of Webb School
- multiple communications with Eversource contractors
- assist in traffic light replacement at Emmerson Williams School
- work over bike path along Folly Brook
- removed invasive overgrowth at SE side of Mill Woods Pond
- pruned 2 large oak trees at SE side of Mill Woods Pond to remove dead and broken branches
- assisted with leaf collection
- installed lights for holiday season at spruce on Church & Main and fir at Solomon Welles House
- work over road for snowplow clearance on Dix Rd
- multiple resident visits/consultations

5- Public comment-

The Shade Tree Commission is currently researching/generating ideas in regards to improving tree vitality in the event of sidewalk restoration in proximity to trees/tree roots.

6- Adjournment-